PAULA ANDREA CAJIAO

PLAYWRIGHT | SCREENWRITER | AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR

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Colombian-American playwright, screenwriter, and award-winning filmmaker whose work explores healing, faith, family, identity, and belonging. Drawing on her experience as an immigrant and U.S. Army combat veteran, Cajiao creates character-driven stories for stage and screen. Her work has earned directing honors, screenplay recognition, and festival selections.

SELECTED SCREENWRITING & FILM

LET THERE BE LIGHT | Feature screenplay Official Selection, Beverly Hills Film Festival; Semifinalist, Atlanta Film Festival and Richmond International Film Festival; Best Screenplay Nominee, Script Awards Los Angeles; Quarterfinalist, Big Apple Film Festival Screenplay Competition; Honorable Mention, Finish Line Script Competition.

SHELL SHOCKED | Short film, 2022 Writer, Director & Producer. Excellence in Directing, New York Women in Film & Television / SOHO International Film Festival; Best Actor, GI Film Festival; Grand Jury Prize nominee, Richmond International Film Festival; Best Film nominee, GI Film Festival. Screened at SOHO, SAFILM, Richmond, GI Film Festival, NewFilmmakers Los Angeles, and additional festivals.

ROSIE | Short film, 2021 Writer, Director & Producer. Festival selections include NVISION Latino, Katra Film Series, Cinema Diverse, Trans-Stellar, QFlix Philadelphia, and Translations.

SEÑORITA | Short film, 2020 Writer, Director & Producer. Best Film nominee, NVISION; festival selections include Big Apple, La Femme, NVISION, and Katra LatinX.

INDEPENDENCE CARE | National digital commercial, 2022 Writer & Director.

PLAYWRITING & THEATER

THE RETURN OF THE ROCK Stage reading, LAByrinth Theater Company.

BEYOND THE BARRACKS | 2024 Writer & Performer, Geffen Playhouse Veterans Writing Program.

BED Ten-minute play, Winter Festival, New York City.

PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATIONS

HALFWAY BITCHES GO STRAIGHT TO HEAVEN | Atlantic Theater Company, 2019–2020 Writer's Assistant to Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Stephen Adly Guirgis during development of the play; consultant to Liza Colón-Zayas for the role of Sarge.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

City College of New York | 2017 B.S., Theater and Psychology.

Conservatory Acting Training | New York City, 2016 Professional acting training.

LANGUAGES

Spanish — Fluent | Italian — Intermediate